

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

TERMS cash in advance. Money sent by mail will be at the risk of the sender. None but bank bills current in New York taken.

THE DAILY HERALD, published every day in the year, except on Sundays and public holidays.

THE WEEKLY HERALD, every Saturday, at Five cents per copy. Annual subscription price:—

One Copy..... \$3

Three Copies..... 5

Five Copies..... 8

Ten Copies..... 15

Postage five cents per copy for three months.

Any larger number addressed to names of subscribers \$1.50 each. An extra copy will be sent to every club of ten. Twenty copies to one address, one year, \$25, and any larger number at same price. An extra copy will be sent to clubs of twenty. These rates make the WEEKLY HERALD the cheapest publication in the country.

The EUROPEAN EDITION, every Wednesday, at Six cents per copy. \$4 per annum to any part of Great Britain, or \$6 to any part of the Continent, both to include postage.

Volume XXXI..... No. 111

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway, near Broome Street.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

WOODS THEATRE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

IRVING HALL, Irving place.—BLIND TOM'S GRAND PIANO CONCERT.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 55 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Broadway.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

GEORGE CHRISTY'S—OLD SCHOOL OF MINSTRELS, BROADWAY, near Broome Street.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

HOPE CHAPPEL, 730 Broadway.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

HOOPER'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 68 Broadway.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

COOPER INSTITUTE, Astor Place.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.—SOLAR.

LECTURE ON CHOLERA.—By J. G. WHESTER, M. D., in the Chapel of the University, Washington Square.

ST. JULIAN HALL, Staten Island.—THE DORRIS BROTHERS, WIZARDS AND MAGICIANS.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Sunday, April 22, 1866.

ADVERTISING OF THE CITY PRESS.

The Herald the Great Organ of the Business and Reading Public.

Annexed are the returns to the Internal Revenue Department of the receipts from advertising of all the daily papers of this city for two years. In the first column are the receipts for thirteen months, being the year 1864, with one month of 1865, and in the second column are the receipts for the twelve months of 1865:—

Paper.	Thirteen months ending Dec. 31, 1864.	For the year 1865.
Herald.....	\$577,455	\$668,194
Tribune.....	260,900	301,841
Times.....	281,812	284,412
Evening Post.....	168,177	222,715
World.....	126,066	177,394
Journal of Commerce.....	109,086	178,646
Transcript.....	62,664	164,461
State's Zettling.....	67,550	128,380
Sun.....	94,328	101,705
Commercial Advertiser.....	60,322	77,556
Daily News.....	48,908	77,048
Evening Express.....	52,350	68,742
New Yorker Democrat.....	21,052	25,734
Totals.....	\$1,878,267	\$2,483,724

This shows the HERALD to be, by its extensive and comprehensive circulation, the chief organ of the advertisers of the Metropolis, and the medium of communicating their business wants to the public.

THE NEWS.

CONGRESS.

The Senate was not in session yesterday.

The proceedings in the House were confined to debate on the President's annual message. The pro and con on the constitutional amendment, reconstruction and the veto were discussed fully and completely. Mr. Smith, of Kentucky, said that Congress did not know whether the South had elected loyal men to Congress or not, and had closed the doors against them without inquiring. He wanted some of those members who were bloodthirsty to propose the trial of Jeff Davis and others who had been prominent leaders in the rebellion. But the fact was Congress had dodged the question. Other members spoke in opposition. Mr. Shellabarger said that Congress had as much right to declare the rights of citizenship of rebels forfeited as it had to declare the same of deserters from the army, which it did in 1864.

EUROPE.

The compilation of news from Europe, published in the HERALD this morning, embraces our special advices from Paris, Madrid, Florence, Berlin and St. Petersburg, showing forth the condition of affairs—political, social, military, naval and industrial—from the capital of France away to the peninsula of Kamchatka, where, it is said, American enterprise and energy are likely to found and build up the seat of a great commercial association, after the plan of the Hudson Bay Company, on the very confines of Siberia.

Our Madrid correspondent states that the Spanish people are heartily tired of transatlantic war, after the experiences gained by their commanders in St. Domingo and Chile; but the Cabinet plays on their hereditary national pride to such an extent that they must, if possible, avenge the Chilean "insult." He repeats that stern orders have been despatched by Queen Isabella to her admiral in the Pacific to bombard Valparaiso and afterwards retire the fleet to Montevideo.

Admiral Goldsborough, with the officers of his flagship, had an elegant reception at the residence of the United States Minister in Florence. The condition of the other vessels of the Mediterranean squadron, as well as the health of the men, was very good. The army and navy of Italy are spoken of as likely to be very efficient on whatever side the King may take in a European war.

Details of the plan for the evacuation of Mexico by the French army were published in Paris. It is said that Secretary Seward had officially expressed to the Emperor the gratification experienced by the Cabinet in Washington at the approaching march of the French troops from the soil, and defined our future position towards the empire to consist in no recognition of Maximilian, and no relations except commercial with him.

Affairs remained dangerously unsettled along the shores of the Persian Gulf.

The discovery of coal in Abyssinia produced considerable excitement on the coast of the Red Sea. Should the fields prove permanently valuable the claim for sovereignty of the territory will evoke an important discussion of the respective rights of the Sultan of Turkey and the Viceroy of Egypt.

THE FENIANS.

From the Maine border we have news to the effect that the United States troops are on guard duty at the bridge between Calais and St. Stephens. The Fenians from Calais take the liberty of frequently crossing the bridge and observing the drilling of the Canadian volunteers.

In Montreal three soldiers of the Royal artillery had been privately arrested, charged with the utterance of Fenian sentiments. The matter is kept as profound a secret as possible.

A rumor which was current to the effect that the people of St. John's objected to the presence of the volunteers, who were sent for their protection, and had engaged in a combat with them, is said to be very probable, as the inhabitants of that town are Americans generally eager for a return to their old allegiance by annexation.

A detective from Montreal joined a Fenian expedition at Calais and has not been heard from since. Trouble is anticipated on account of the exclusion of Catholics from the Mayor's Court for the trial of the Cornwall prisoners.

The Fenian situation on this side of the border has conveniently changed its aspect. They now declare that they have for the present no other intention than to invest their heavy Fenian fund in good paying fisheries. They propose to make a grand piscatory excursion, and for the present capture codfish instead of freeing Ireland. Mr. Killian is to be the business manager, and the arms they are to carry are only to be used in self-defense in case the English or any other power should attack them. It is supposed that by this means they may force a rupture between the United States and Great Britain, although they profess no such object.

THE CITY.

The pestilence is still increasing among the passengers of the steamer Virginia, now in the Lower Quarantine, four deaths having taken place on Friday night, and thirty-three new cases having been discovered. The total number of sick on board the hospital ship at noon yesterday was sixty-seven. The steamer England arrived yesterday—only one death having occurred since leaving Halifax, and that an infant, from whooping cough—and was quarantined in the lower bay. The passengers and crew were well.

A collision case came up in the United States Commissioners' Court yesterday, before Commissioner Osborn, in which one of the witnesses, on being questioned as to whether he could attend on Monday, to which time it was proposed to adjourn the case, testified that he was a seafaring man; that he is a member of a political society; that he has been under orders from that society for the past fortnight to be ready to sail; and that he was doubtful whether he would be here on Monday or not, and that he was not at liberty to say whether the organization to which he belonged was Fenianism or not. The case was adjourned to Monday.

The case of Wallace Dykeman, charged with passing a fifty dollar counterfeit note on a bartender in the Eighth avenue, came up yesterday again before Commissioner Osborn, in the United States Commissioners' Court. The evidence was concluded; but the Commissioner reserved his decision till Monday.

The case of the Meteor, the alleged Chilean privateer, was again up yesterday in the United States District Court. Counsel on either side closed their arguments, and Judge Betts took the papers, reserving his decision in the case to a future day.

Judge Monell, of the Superior Court, has delivered a very important decision touching the right of the city to have mistakes corrected which tend to its disadvantage and are committed by its law officers. In a case of damages awarded against the city, Corporation Counsel O'Gorman moved for a new trial on account of a mistake in the awards, or for a correction of the judgments, and Judge Monell decided to grant the motion, taking the ground that mistakes ought to be corrected, especially in the case of the city, which was entirely at the mercy of its law officer.

Another large robbery by a more lad was effected on Thursday evening. The safe of Messrs. Rogers Brothers, on Beaver street, was opened by Johannes Toverman, a boy of fifteen, employed by the firm, and money abstracted to the amount of \$6,400, with which he fitted himself out, bought a ticket for New Orleans, and then visited the Bowery theatre, where he was arrested. All the money was recovered except \$500, which he had found means to expend.

Mayor Hoffman yesterday issued an order to the effect that all alto-glycerine discovered in the city should be placed in vessels filled with water and particular guard kept over it.

The number of prisoners confined at the present time in the Tombs prison is two hundred and fifty-two, which is about equally proportioned between males and females. The number of murderers, five of whom have been tried and sentenced to be executed, is sixteen, one of whom is a woman charged with the murder of her children, but not yet indicted. There are eighty-five prisoners charged with felonies and one hundred and fifty-one with petty offences.

Mrs. Caroline E. Schneck, who was missing for some time from her residence on Fourteenth street, was yesterday found dead in her rear yard, having, it is supposed, while in a deranged state of mind thrown herself from the fifth story window of her house.

There were one hundred and thirty-one deaths in Brooklyn last week. Of this number twenty-nine were men, twenty-nine women, thirty-eight boys and thirty-three girls. The principal diseases were consumption, pneumonia, bronchitis, typhoid fever and disease of the brain.

Last week the wills of the following persons were admitted to probate in the office of the Surrogate of Kings county:—Helen Van Sinderen, of New Lots; Maria Bergen, Julia C. Douglas and Garrett Tinslon, of Brooklyn. Letters of administration were granted on the estates of the following named persons:—Elizabeth J. Jordan, Catharine Magnus, Patrick Higgins, Charles F. K. Freginsin, Ed. Ryan, John Davis, Ed. C. Thora, John McMahon and Michael Taggart, all of Brooklyn.

The stock market was firm yesterday, and prices advanced. Governments were strong. Gold was steady, and closed at 126 3/4.

But little business was done yesterday, either on or off Change, in foreign or domestic merchandise. In the way of shipments scarcely anything was done, even in cotton, which forms the chief article nowadays. The breadstuffs markets were dull and heavy, but provisions were steady, pork being somewhat better. A heavy stock depressed the sugar market somewhat, and prices rather favored the purchaser. Common grades of coffee had a declining tendency. Prime grades were steady. Cotton was dull and drooping. Petroleum steady. Freight dull. Dry goods dull.

MISCELLANEOUS.

President Johnson lately despatched Major General James B. Steedman and Brigadier General Fullerton to inform him upon the social status of the Southern States. General Steedman is well known by his military career as Colonel of the Fourteenth Ohio, which fought the battle of Carrick's Ford, Va., one of McClellan's first victories; for gallant conduct at Mill Spring, as the commander who led Gordon Granger's reserve corps to Thomas' assistance at Chickamauga, and as a corps commander in the battle of Nashville, Tenn., in December, 1864. General Fullerton was for many months General Howard's adjutant, and was at one time a principal agent of the Freedmen's Bureau. The experience of General Fullerton and Steedman, as traced by our correspondent, is identical with that of General Grant, and shows conclusively that the representations of radical leaders and preachers, showing antagonism between the races and outrages upon the weaker one, are exaggerations of individual cases, and wholly inapplicable to the people generally. Our correspondent was strongly impressed with the idea that the antagonism between the races was bitter and relentless, and has been astonished to find its entire absence. He represents the reliance, respect and dependence of the days of slavery as still existing, and pictures the native Virginians as the friends and tutors of their former slaves.

The two negroes just executed in Jamaica for participation in the late revolt to the extent of murder, confessed that they had been sworn into an association organized for the purpose of such a rising by Paul Bogie, and were bound to obey his commands. They denied that they had struck the person for whose death they were to suffer, but acknowledged they were present when he was killed.

General Grant and his wife arrived in Richmond yesterday.

The Supreme Court of Massachusetts has decided that a revenue stamp on a note is no part of it and need not be copied, nor does the want of a stamp on the note affect the validity of it unless fraudulently omitted.

The State Legislature—Its Final Adjournment.

The State Legislature has finally concluded its labors and adjourned sine die. The session was brought to a close amidst great excitement of the lobby at a late hour on Friday night. The members are by this time en route for home to report to their families and constituents. From all accounts it has been one of the most singular bodies that has assembled in Albany since the eventful year of 1860. There was so much confusion in the proceedings during the last few hours of its session, and so many important questions acted upon amidst this excitement, that it is almost impossible, at the present time, to tell what evil has been done or what good has been accomplished. If there is no wrong committed it is not for the want of a disposition on the part of a large body of the lawmakers, but for the lack of time and power. A very large amount of business has been transacted and laws enough passed to fill a large volume. Many of them, as usual, are special acts, which are only local in their application and only intended as such. There have been some sixty odd bills passed which refer exclusively to interests in this city. But when the bills which have become laws are analyzed we judge that it will be found that by far less than the usual proportion are what are termed public measures, looking exclusively to the public good. In this respect the Legislature will be found more remarkable for what it did not do than for what it did accomplish.

It is true that this session has given us a new sanitary department, or health board, which we trust will prove a great benefit to this metropolis. From all appearances the lawmakers seemed inclined to rest on their laurels after they had passed that measure, and to consider that they had made a reputation by that act which would cover up all subsequent misdeeds. This bill, with the liquor law and one or two other measures are the only public laws among the entire list for this city, while there were an innumerable number of jobs on all sorts of questions. The Central Railroad fare bill is the only one of those schemes for the rural districts which has passed in a practical form. The Niagara Ship Canal was so encumbered by outside matters that it will prove perfectly useless. All the railroad bills for this city seem to have failed at the last stage of the session. This result was brought about by the managers of each scheme fighting all others, until finally all fell in the general melee. The bills granting aid to the Susquehanna and Whitehall Railroads and the Onondaga Canal were log-rolled through in both houses, going through in a sort of an omnibus arrangement, but were vetoed by the Governor on the last day of the session. Strange to say, no strenuous effort was made to pass those bills over the veto, nor did we hear of any denunciations of the Governor, or charges by the radicals that he was an usurper or a despot, although it is clearly evident that Governor Fenton vetoed those measures for the purpose of making capital for his own re-election. The Code has also been amended and changed in many particulars, but just how and where it is impossible to tell, and we presume that none but the lawyers can decide the effect that the modifications will have. They probably all relate, as usual, to some special case where some lawyer has been unable to win his suit in court, and has applied to the Legislature for an amendment to the Code which will enable him to carry his point. This style of sharp practice has become too extensive for the general good.

It seems, however, that an anchor was thrown out to the windward by the Senate just before the adjournment, looking towards business at the next session. The resolution appointing a committee to report routes and plans for railroads in this city looks like work in this line at the next session. But the Legislature has adjourned, the lights have been put out and the doors closed. Its members are now of no more importance than other citizens, and they will gradually sink back into the normal condition which they occupied before they became legislators. No person will regret that the session has been brought to a close, while thousands will rejoice and breathe more freely now they know that all further danger from that source is over until the commencement of another year. The public are no doubt thankful that no more damage has been done, and will be inclined to look with charity upon many of the misdeeds of the members. We could have had a worse Legislature, yet there was unquestionably great room for improvement, and we hope to have a much better one next year.

DAILY ADVERTISING—SHILLY TRICKS OF A CONTINGENT.

By the following comparative statement it will be seen that the HERALD has, during the past five days, contained upwards of one thousand more advertisements than both the Times and Tribune:—

NUMBER OF ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE HERALD, TIMES AND TRIBUNE FOR FIVE DAYS.

	Herald.	Times.	Tribune.
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Tuesday, April 17.....	1,329	680	450
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Wednesday, April 18.....	1,572	791	440
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Thursday, April 19.....	1,573	762	482
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Friday, April 20.....	1,120	685	450
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Saturday, April 21.....	1,131	618	451
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Total.....6,224 3,966 2,283

Excess of Herald for five days over both Times and Tribune.....1,665

The above demonstrates the extent of the HERALD's daily advertising over that of the Times and Tribune. It must be remembered that this excess is not attributable to extra exertions or drumming on the part of the HERALD. On the contrary, we have more difficulty in keeping out rather than rushing in advertisements. It is simply the legitimate result of an immense circulation and the benefit an appreciative advertising public derive from making use of our columns. How is it with our contemporaries? Take the Tribune, for example. We have before us a circular issued from the Tribune office, in which an advertisement cut from the HERALD is pasted, and the Tribune's terms for publishing the same annexed. These terms, of course, are much lower than those of the HERALD, and as the circular is addressed to the person named in the advertisement it is, of course, simply an underhand mode of drumming up advertisements. The trick is a silly one, for many of our advertisers to whom these circulars are addressed forward them to us for the purpose of exposing the extremes to which the Tribune resorts to obtain advertisements. A short time ago the same concern had circulars printed in green ink, with the cut of an Irish harp, and sent them to the Irish chambermaids who advertised in the HERALD for the purpose of inducing them to transfer their advertisements to the columns of the Tribune. But all these

ridiculous efforts to drum up an advertising patronage avail nothing against the HERALD.

Look at our paper to-day. For the first time in the history of city newspapers printed on Sunday we are obliged to-day, by the pressure of advertisements, to issue a triple sheet. But notwithstanding this rush of advertisements upon our columns we do not intend that our friends shall be deprived of their usual amount of news and other reading matter. To-day's paper presents a marked appearance in another respect. It shows that the local advertising public are beginning to appreciate the advantages of advertising in a Sunday issue. The Sunday HERALD is more thoroughly read in the city than the issues of week days, and the knowledge of that fact is being seen by shrewd and intelligent advertisers.

American Outdoor Sports—Opening of the Spring Season.

Winter no longer lingers in the lap of spring. The sunshine is bright and golden, the air soft and pleasant, and warm weather has come at last. Now the theatres are too close and sultry, lecturers are a bore, books are stupid, all the amusements of winter are no longer attractive, and everybody feels an irresistible longing for out of doors. We publish this morning, as appropriate to the opening of the season, an elaborate review of our national games and sports. Races and racers, trots and trotters, yachts and yachtsmen, boats and oarsmen, base ball and base ball clubs, cricket and cricketers, croquet and the co-quettes who have naturalized the game, archery and archers, are all fully treated in this careful and interesting summary. It is evident, from the preparations and the matches to come off, that this season is to be the most attractive that we have ever had in this country. The great game of war is happily over and the irrepressible energy and activity of the national character will turn heartily and cordially to these peaceful amusements. It has been said that Americans work too much; but every year the popular interest in outdoor sports increases, and we discover that Americans can play as well and as hard as they work. Already we quite rival the English in this respect, and in course of time we shall certainly surpass them in sporting as we do in every kind of labor. From present indications this season will place us a long way ahead in yachting, in racing and in boating.

The New York Yacht Club is quite ready for action.

The club is well officered and composed of members who love the sport and are not afraid to venture out of sight of land. The old mill-pond races are now completely ignored, and ocean regattas are the popular subjects of discussion. The programme of the club for this year embraces a regatta, a review, a squadron cruise and several ocean matches. The regatta will be unusually exciting and interesting. The review will be for the benefit of the ladies, who will be conveyed to and from the fleet in steamers, and will be refreshed by a magnificent collation and a sail on board the yachts. The squadron will probably go to Boston during the cruise, and it is expected that a steamer will be chartered for the accommodation of those members who do not own yachts. The club has not forgotten that it still has possession of the champion cup won by the America, and English yachtsmen are also beginning to remember the loss of this trophy, and are becoming ambitious to regain it. We hope that an international regatta may be arranged by autumn and that British yachts may come into our waters to compete for the supremacy. But if the yachtsmen of England are too slow about this matter it is probable that we may send a fleet of Americas across the ocean in 1867 to win several more cups for our Club. The Paris Exposition will be held in that year; thousands of Americans will go to Europe to attend it, and it is likely that those who belong to the Club will go in their own yachts, which are much more comfortable than any steamer. This will be decidedly more sensible and more characteristic of the Americans than to send over the Seventh regiment in a glass case to provoke the ridicule of the Parisian wits. We consider a contest between the yachts of the two countries as certain, and it is simply a question as to whether we shall go to England or wait for the English to come here. In boating we have boldly taken the initiative. Hamill, our champion oarsman, has started to row Kelley, the champion of England, upon English waters, and the general opinion seems to be that Hamill will win. If he have a fair race and a clear course it will be almost useless for Kelley to try to keep up with him.

The progress which we have made in base ball and cricket, and the enthusiasm which has welcomed the introduction of croquet and archery among our national games, are described in the review to which we have referred our readers. Base ball is essentially an American game, and although not perhaps so scientific it is much more exciting than cricket, which has, however, many American practitioners. Croquet is a sort of out of door billiards or bagatelle, and will be quite generally adopted by the ladies. Archery has been popular since the days of Robin Hood, and was probably invented by Adam himself; but it has hitherto found very few experts in this country, where the rifle and pistol are preferred; but during the present season it will be in full feather at all the watering places. But in none of these sports are the masses of the people so thoroughly interested as in those of the turf. A few years ago trotting horses were altogether in vogue. The good old racing times, when thousands flocked to this city from all parts of the country to see the performances of such clippers as Eclipse, seemed to have passed forever. But now we have a genuine revival of racing. We have our New Jersey Derby and our Epsom and our Oaks. A Jockey Club is in process of formation, and a splendid new racecourse is to be opened at Bathgate, near Fordham, in September. The Paterson races, which are first class, will take place in June, and the Saratoga races, which have already become a fashionable institution, will soon follow. A Richmond manager will take charge of the Hoboken Course, which was admirably inaugurated last season, and he has just arrived here with eleven race horses and twenty negro jockeys, who used to be his slaves, but are now contented to remain in his employ as freedmen. In the meantime the trotting matches on Long Island will not be neglected. Twenty purses have been offered by the proprietors of the Union and Fashion Courses, to be trotted for in May and June, and several good trots have come off within the past week. With this programme of entertain-

ments on the turf, with the extensive preparations for yacht races, regattas and international contests; with the boat matches that have been arranged, including that between the American and English champions, and with the increasing interest in base ball, cricket, croquet, archery and all other kinds of open-air sports and games, we are justified in predicting that, in spite of the croaking about cholera, the spring season will be unprecedentedly brilliant.

The Army Bill.

The bill for the increase of the regular army, as amended in the Senate, appears to be undergoing extensive manipulation in the House. The everlasting negro comes up on this as on every other subject, and there is a great deal of twaddle and affectation of sentiment both about the heroic darkeys and the maimed veterans of the war. All this is out of place, much of it untrue as to facts of history, as it is false in sentiment, and the greater part is mere buncombe for political effect. We almost despair of getting a body of legislators together again who will have sense and capacity enough to comprehend and adhere to the simple merits of a measure. The only question, really, should be how to make the most efficient army with the smallest amount of materials and at the least expense. This is a proposition so self-evident that we might suppose the commonest understanding would comprehend it. Charity has nothing to do with it. The negro ought not to enter into it, and the reward for past services should be subordinate to the main question of efficiency. If Congress would keep this idea before them constantly we might expect such a reorganization of the army as would make that branch of the service the admiration of the world. But, unfortunately, efficiency is made subordinate to political and partisan considerations, to favoritism and to false sentiment.

Let us look, for instance, at the proposition to make negro regiments in the regular army. Does any one suppose the negroes are equal to white men as soldiers? We are not disposed to undervalue the services of some of these people during the war, and it might have been very well to employ them when we needed all the available resources of the country to subdue the rebellion. Without making breast-works of them, as was the case at Fort Hudson and some other places, they were made useful by dovetailing their regiments in with the white regiments and by employing them as supernumeraries of the army. But everybody knows, and our great generals particularly know, that the radical negro worshippers have let off a great deal of nonsense about the heroism and services of the negroes. Such radicals as Ben Butler, Saxton and Carl Schurz may attempt to humbug the country about negro efficiency, but these men will certainly not be regarded as authorities in military matters. The facts of the war are against the statements and assumptions of the negro worshippers. That, however, is all over. The question now is, do we want negro troops as a part of the regular army? Is it necessary or expedient to have them? We can get plenty of white men. There is no excuse for employing negroes on that ground. In times of peace our army is chiefly employed on the plains and remote posts to keep the Indians in order. Now, it is well known that the negro has an instinctive and unconquerable dread of the Indian. The Indian, too, has much less fear of the negro than of the white man. How, then, would negro troops answer for this service on the score of efficiency compared with white troops? The answer is plain. Then, to use negro soldiers against our own race in times of civil disturbances, either in the South or North, unless, indeed, it be in a general war, such as we have passed through, would be revolting, and would inflame men's passions rather than subdue them. No statesman or philanthropist would wish to employ colored troops against white people in such an event, for the tendency would be to create a war of races, in which the weakest must go to the wall. On what ground, then, is it proposed to make the negroes a part of our permanent army? It looks very much like vindictiveness or a hatred on the part of the radicals toward a portion of the people of their own race and color. That is the sort of legislation with which this country is unhappily afflicted at present.

Nor should the army be regarded as a great charitable institution, in which to put either blacks or whites who cannot help themselves. If men have performed meritorious services, and they are still efficient, their past services ought to give them the preference to others. But the efficiency of the army ought not to be impaired, even by rewarding those with appointments who can no longer be as serviceable as others. If, for example, there are men in the Veteran Reserve corps fully as capable as others of less merit let them by all means be employed. But this preference should not override the question of efficiency. Let us reward those who deserve it or who have become disabled by the war by pensions or in some other way, but in the reorganization of the army let the paramount question be that of efficiency. This, in the end, will be the least cost, and we shall have the proud satisfaction of knowing that our army, in proportion to its numbers, will be equal, if not superior, to any in the world. While on this subject let us hope Congress will not fail to appreciate the superior services and capabilities of those who have been educated to the profession at West Point. We do not think it necessary to go into all the details of the bill before Congress, and have simply laid down the principles which ought to govern that body in its action.

INEFFICIENCY OF THE PAID FIRE DEPARTMENT.

There appears to be something radically wrong in our present Fire Department. There was a time when buildings once on fire could be saved, but such seems to be no longer the case. Just as sure as a fire breaks out just so certain is that building doomed to become one mass of charred and blackened ruins. Now, why is this? Has the system proved a failure, or is the fault in the management? The department certainly ought to be thoroughly organized by this time. Nearly a year has been consumed in placing it in working order. The experiment of a change of system has in that time been a costly one to our citizens. If it is not to work any better in the future than during the past nine months, the sooner we get rid of the system or the present managers the better.

The insurance companies were very strong advocates of the present system, and are in a great measure responsible for its adoption.

The public and the Legislature were assured by the insurance interest that with this fire department system they would be able to insure the property of our citizens at a greatly reduced rate.

Under that pressure the volunteer fire department was abolished and the present system substituted. But what has been the result? Instead of reduced rates of insurance, a large number of the companies have been swamped by their heavy losses at the old rates, and those who have weathered through now come forward and demand an increased rate. The facts all summed up, conclusively prove that the new Fire Department has thus far proved a failure. The number of fires and the amount of losses both far exceed what they were under the old arrangement, and the cost of insurance has materially increased. There is no wonder that our people are inquiring what is the cause of all this? This is not the result that they expected when the change of system was made. It is clear that there is something wrong which requires an immediate remedy. If the trouble is with the present management then it should be changed; if with the system then let it be abolished without delay. But some action should be taken at once.

The French Theatre—A Revolution in Opera and the Drama.

It was promised that the new French theatre would be finished about the first week in April, and now we are in the third week and it is not yet completed. However, the construction of theatres, like all other human affairs, is liable to uncertainty and disappointment. At all events, the new theatre will be ready by the fall, and then we may look for a revolution, to a certain extent, in our metropolitan enjoyments. We will be relieved from the nightmare of dull and heavy old operas. We will have some place of amusement to go to where the attraction will be found in the performance rather than in the audience, where people will gladly visit, not for fashion's sake nor at the bidding of custom, but for the real pleasure to be obtained there. In short, we are to have at the new French theatre a series of those light and delightful operas which render the Opera Comique in Paris always charming, and the Academie de Musique always enjoyable. The French composers, such as Auber and Gounod, and others whom we might mention, are infinitely more fertile than the Italians, and even those of the former school who have attempted the gravest compositions are willing at times to devote their talents to the lighter and more sparkling class of operas which harmonize so well with the French mind and character. Thus, while we have to wait for three or four years until the work of an Italian composer is completed, and must content ourselves with this one opera from that master probably for ten years before he puts forth another, the supply of light French opera is always abundant for the popular want. In this respect the French opera writers have a decided advantage over the Italians, and are more suitable to the present taste.

Our people want variety, and they want amusement. When one tragedy drags its slow course through a season in one of our metropolitan theatres, there are a dozen or more other houses playing light pieces with twice the profit. No one who has visited the Academy of Music of late could have failed to observe that the audience did not go there to hear the music, but simply to meet each other and talk together in little coteries. What passed on the stage was little heeded; therefore indifferent music and worn-out artists did just as well as the best. People had boxes which they must occupy and season tickets which they must use, and hence they went to the opera, not for the love of art, but in submission to prevailing custom. Country folks went there to see the fashionables of the city. In the Opera Comique, of Paris, how different. There every one is intent upon the performance. There can be no mistaking the object of the audience. They come seeking for pleasure and they get it.

In former times, when dramatic writers were scarce, the public had to be content with a few plays, which were presented again and again until all interest in them was exhausted; but there is no necessity in this age of fertile brains and vivid imagination, when so many literary men are dramatists and so many musicians are composers, for being compelled to sit out old worn-out plays and hackneyed operas. We expect to see this corrected when the French theatre is opened. With brilliant new operas and fresh dramas put upon the stage with judicious management, we trust there will be no cause to complain of the stupidity or the demoralization which have for some time past characterized so many of our places of amusement. It is true that the French theatre is not as well located as it might be. It should be further up town and nearer to Broadway; but then this disadvantage will be counterbalanced by the